

SB 93 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds requirement that Oregon Liquor Control Commission state in order approving a redemption center whether the center will be located in an area zoned for commercial use or will be located in an area that will provide more convenient service given the proximity to dealers within the convenience zone served by the center. States that redemption center is not a recycling depot for purposes of specified recycling laws.

No subsequent referral

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 1971, Oregon enacted the “Bottle Bill,” which is the nation’s longest-standing beverage container deposit law. In 2007, the legislature expanded coverage of the five-cent deposit to include water and flavored water. In 2011, the legislature expanded the types of beverage containers subject to the deposit to include juices, teas and more; set a trigger for the deposit to increase to 10 cents if the recycling rate fell below 80 percent for two consecutive years; and set up a redemption center pilot project. (A redemption center is a facility where consumers may bring their empty containers to redeem their deposit.) In 2013, Senate Bill 117 removed the status of the redemption center program as a pilot program and authorized the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) to approve additional centers. The redemption centers—known as “BottleDrops”—are operated and funded by the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative in partnership with grocery retailers. OLCC approves redemption centers if the agency determines that a center will offer a convenient service to the public. There are 25 BottleDrops currently operating in Oregon.

Senate Bill would add a requirement that OLCC state in its order approving a redemption center whether the center will be located in an area zoned for commercial use or will be located in an area that will provide more convenient service given the proximity to dealers within the convenience zone served by the center. The measure would also state that a redemption center is not a recycling depot for purposes of the state's recycling laws.